1	IAFD FILED
2	MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10121
3	THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 2009 JUL 30 P 4: 58
4	Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile)
5	Attorney for Plaintiff  DISTRICT COURT
6	CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
7	MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual, Case No.
8	) Dept. Plaintiffs,
9	vs. ) 0 0 70 / 38 / - (
10	NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability)  NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability)  Company SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ an
11	Company, SALVADOR RODINGOLL, with the control of th
12	Individual; DOES I – X, Inclusive; and ROE  Corporations I – X, Inclusive,  )
13	Defendants.
14	INITIAL APPEARANCE FEE DISCLOSURE (NRS CHAPTER 19)
15	
16	Pursuant to NRS Chapter 19, as amended by Senate Bill 106, filing fees are
17	submitted for parties appearing in the above entitled action as indicated below:
18	Plaintiff- Mark Bernstein \$250.00
19	☐ Total of Continuation Sheet Attached
20	TOTAL REMITTED: (Required) \$250.00
21	DATED this 30 day of, 2009.
22	
23	A - 00 - 505208 - 0
24	A - 09 - 596386 - C 290837  MALCOLM/P. (AVERGNE, ESQ.  Nevada Bar No. 40121
25	Nevada Bar No. 40121 Attorneys for Plaintiff
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Initial Appearance Fee Disclosure/7/28/2009

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# ORIGINAL

# COMP MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10121 THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile)

FILED

2009 JUL 30 P 4: 58

The second of

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

Attorney for Plaintiff

NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability)
Company; SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ, an
Individual; DOES I – X, Inclusive; and ROE
Corporations I – X, Inclusive,

Defendants.

Case No

Exempt From Arbitration (Title to Real Estate)

A - 09 - 596386 - C 290836



#### COMPLAINT TO QUIET TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY

COMES NOW, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN ("Plaintiff" or "Bernstein"), by and through his attorney MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, of THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP, and for his Complaint to Quiet Title to real Property against Defendants, alleges the following:

- 1. At all relevant times, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN was and is a resident of the State of Nevada, County of Clark, and is the owner in fee simple of the property located at 2517 East Tonopah Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89030 ("Tonopah Property").
- 2. At all relevant times, Defendant NOTEWORLD, LLC was and is a Foreign Limited Liability Company doing business in the State of Nevada, County of Clark.

1///

- 3. At all relevant times, Defendant SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ was and is a resident of Santa Barbara, California and lives at 1004 Cima Linda Lane, Santa Barbara, California, 93108.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendants DOES I X are individuals or entities involved in the conduct alleged herein; that Plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the identities of these individuals or entities and, therefore, sues them under fictitious names; that when their true identities are known, Plaintiff will expeditiously seek leave to amend the Complaint with the true identities.
- 5. Upon information and belief, Defendants ROE Corporations I X are involved in the conduct alleged herein; that Plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the identities of these corporations and, therefore, sues them under fictitious names; that when their true identities are known, Plaintiff will expeditiously seek leave to amend the Complaint with the true identities.
- 6. On or around July 1, 1980 Plaintiff became the owner in fee simple of the Tonopah Property.
- 7. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$9,140.98.
- 8. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff additionally secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$4,600.00.
- In or around 2001, Sycamore Properties became a defunct company in the State of Nevada.
- On or around June 22, 1994, the deeds of trust related to both notes passed to
   Defendant Salvador Rodriguez.
  - 11. The notes on the Tonopah Property are serviced by Defendant Noteworld.

- 12. The note for \$9,140.98 is known to Defendant Noteworld as Account No. 300020095001053.
- 13. The note for \$4,600 is known to Defendant Noteworld as Account No. 300020095001054.
  - 14. In or around 2004, Plaintiff became sole owner of the Tonopah Property.
- 15. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- 16. Mr. Bernstein made his payments to Defendant Noteworld rigorously and ontime throughout the history of the note payments.
- 17. In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of late fees that dates back to January 10, 2000.
- 18. Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Quiet Title Pursuant to NRS 40.010)

- 19. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "18" as if fully set forth herein. Plaintiff further alleges:
- 20. Plaintiff has been the owner in fee simple of the Tonopah Property since on or around July 1, 1980.
- 21. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$9,140.98.
- 22. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff additionally secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$4,600.00.

- 23. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes.
- 24. Plaintiff requests that the titles to both real properties are resolved by this court through a trial on the merits, pursuant to NRS 40.010.
- 25. Plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to represent him for this action, and, therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees from Defendants.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for a judgment against Defendants as follows:

- 1. That the Court determine the adverse claims of the properties pursuant to NRS 40.010;
  - 2. That the Defendants pay Plaintiffs' reasonable attorney's fees; and
  - 3. For any such further additional relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

Dated this 20 day of \_\_\_\_

MALCOLM PAVERGNE, ESQ.

Nevada Bar Nd. 10121

THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP

320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203

Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile)

Attorneys for Plaintiff

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEVADA ss: COUNTY OF CLARK

MARK BERNSTEIN, under the penalties of perjury, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That I am an individual Plaintiff in this action; that I have read the foregoing Complaint, and I know the contents thereof; that the same is true of my own knowledge, except for those matters therein contained stated upon information and belief, and as to those matters, I believe them to be true.

I declare under the penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

EXECUTED this 30th day of July

MARK BERNSTEIN

### ORIGINAL

AFFT
MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ.
Nevada Bar No. 10121
THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP
320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203
Las Vegas, Nevada 89104
702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile)
Attorney for Plaintiff

#### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual,	)	Case No. Dept.	A-09-596386-C 9
Plaintiffs,	)	~-p	
VS.	)		
NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ, an Individual; DOES I – X, Inclusive; and ROE Corporations I – X, Inclusive,	) y) ) )	A - 09 - 596 443096	3386 — C

#### AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

STATE OF <u>LNASHINGTON</u>)
ss:
COUNTY OF <u>PIERCE</u>)

Defendants.

- 1. <u>KLAUS G. ELLID</u> being duly sworn, says: That at all times herein, affiant was and is a citizen of the United States, over 18 years of age, not a party to, nor interested in, the proceeding in which this affidavit is made.
- 2. That affiant received one copy of the Summons and Complaint on the <u>28</u>th day of <u>SEPTEMBER</u> 2009.

111 (2) (3)

Bernstein v. Noteworld LLC, et. al. - Affidavit of Service - 1

- documents on Noteworld, LLC, by delivering and leaving a copy of the documents with LAW OFFICES OF Who is authorized to accept service on behalf of Noteworld, LLC, at 1001 Pacific Avenue, #200, Tacoma, Washington 98402.
  - 4. I declare under the penalty of perjury that that foregoing is true and correct. Executed this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

PROCESS SERVER

## ORIGINAL

1 SUMM MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. 2 Nevada Bar No. 10121 THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 3 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile) 4 Attorney for Plaintiff 5 DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA 6 7 Case No. MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual, Dept. AD9 596386 C 8 Plaintiffs, 9 VS. 10 NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability) SUMMONS Company; SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ, an A-09-596386-C 11 443098 Individual; DOES I – X, Inclusive; and ROE Corporations I - X, Inclusive, 12 13 Defendants. NOTICE! YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. THE COURT MAY DECIDE AGAINST YOU WITHOUT 14 YOUR BEING HEARD UNLESS YOU RESPOND WITHIN TWENTY (20) DAYS. READ THE 15 INFORMATION BELOW. TO DEFENDANT NOTEWORLD, LLC: A civil complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff against you for the 16 relief set forth in the complaint. If you intend to defend this lawsuit, within twenty (20) days after this Summons is served on you, 17 exclusive of the day of service, you, must do the following: File with the Clerk of this Court a formal written response to the Complaint in accordance with 18 the rules of this Court; Serve a copy of your response upon the attorney whose name and address is shown above. Unless you respond, your default will be entered upon application of the Plaintiff and this Court may 19 enter a judgment against you for the relief demanded in the complaint, which could result in the taking of money or property or other relief requested in the complaint. 20 If you intend to seek the advice of an attorney in this matter, you should do so promptly so that your 3. response may be filed on time. 21 Clerk of the Court Issued at the direction of: 22 200 South 3rd Street, Las Vogas, NV 89155 MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. JUL 3 0 2009 23 By: TERRI STRINGER 24 Deputy Clerk Attorney for Plain 25

Bernstein v. Noteworld LLC, et. al. - Summons - 1

# ORIGINAL

**IAFD** 1 David B. Sanders, Esq. (7895) Huong X. Lam, Esq. (10916) THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP 820 S. Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 3 (702) 435-4175 Telephone (702) 877-7424 Facsimile 4 E-Mail: HLam@CCFirm.com Attorneys for Defendant 5 Noteworld, LLC DISTRICT COURT 6 **CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA** 7 MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual 8 Case No. A-09-596386-C Plaintiff, ٧S. 9 Dept. No. IX NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited 10 Liability Company; SALVADOR INITIAL APPEARANCE FEE **DISCLOSURE** RODRIGUEZ, an Individual; DOES I - X, 11 Inclusive; and ROE Corporations I - X, Inclusive, 12

Pursuant to NRS Chapter 19, as amended by Senate Bill 106, filing fees are submitted for parties appearing in the above-entitled action as indicated below:

NOTEWORLD, LLC

\$270.00

Total Remitted:

Defendants.

\$270.00

DATED this 19 day of October, 2009.

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP

A-09-596386-C

David B. Sanders, Esq. (7895) Huong X. Lam, Esq. (10916) 820 S. Valley View Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89107 (702) 435-4175 Telephone Attorneys for Defendant Noteworld, LLC

RECEIVED 24

820 South Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP

Phone (702) 435-4175 o Fax (702) 877-7424

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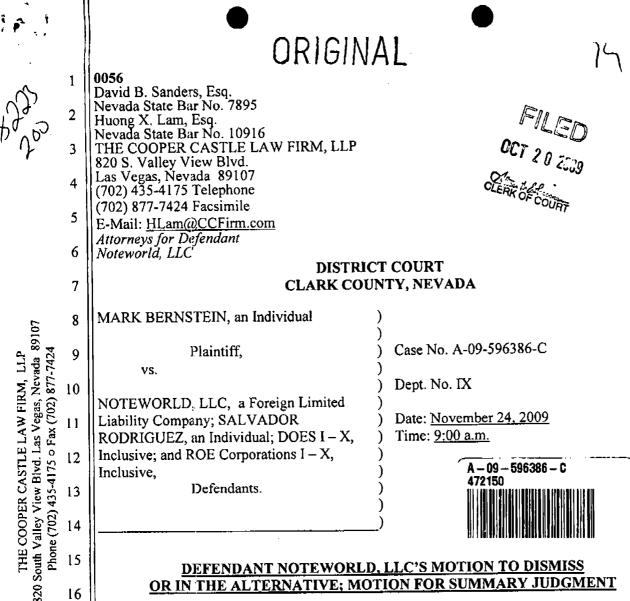
(Page 1 of 25)

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# OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE; MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT

COMES NOW Defendants, NOTEWORLD, LLC (hereinafter "Noteworld") by and through its counsel of record, THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, and hereby moves this Court pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5) for an Order Dismissing With Prejudice each and every cause of action alleged against Defendant or in the alternative, for summary judgment pursuant to NRCP 56.

This Motion is made and based upon the attached Memorandum of Points and Authorities, the pleadings and papers on file herein, and any argument of counsel the court may consider at the hearing of this Motion.

- 1 -

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP 820 South Valley View Blvd. Las Vegas, Nevada 89107 Phone (702) 435-4175 o Fax (702) 877-7424

(Page 2 of 25)

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

TO: ALL PARTIES OF INTEREST

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 24th day of November, 2009, at the hour of

9:00 a.m., in Department 9, or as soon thereafter as counsel may be heard, the undersigned

will bring the foregoing Motion for hearing before the above-referenced Court.

Dated this / day of October, 2009.

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP

David B. Sanders, Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 7895
Huong X. Lam, Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 10916
820 S. Valley View Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89107
(702) 435-4175 Telephone
Attorneys for Defendant
Noteworld, LLC

#### POINTS AND AUTHORITIES

#### A. Brief Summary

This matter deals with real property located in Las Vegas, Nevada, commonly known as 2517 E. Tonopalı Ave., N. Las Vegas, NV 89030, APN 139-24-410-005 (hereinafter the "Property"). The Property was purchased on or about July 1, 1980 by Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN ("Plaintiff" or "Bernstein") and his then wife, Karen Bernstein from Sycamore Properties. (See Exhibit A). The Note on the loan was secured by first and second Deeds of Trusts, dated July 1, 1980, executed by Bernstein and his then wife, Karen Bernstein. (See Exhibit B). The first and second Deeds of Trusts were recorded on July 9, 1980 as Instrument No. 1209825 in Book 1250, and Instrument No. 1209826 in Book 1250 in the Official Records in the County Recorder's Office of Clark County, Nevada. (See Exhibit C).

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On or about June 13, 1994, the first and second Deeds of Trusts were assigned to Salvador Rodriguez. The Assignments of the first and second Deeds of Trusts were recorded on June 22, 1994 at Instrument No. 199406220001554 and Instrument No. 199406220001555. (See Exhibit D). On or about July 30, 2009, Bernstein filed the instant lawsuit for Quiet Title pursuant to NRS 40.010. Upon service of the Complaint, Noteworld contacted counsel for Bernstein and requested voluntary dismissal from the case because Noteworld "makes no claim to possession - in full or in part - to the properties at issue." (See Exhibit E). Despite this request, Noteworld was not dismissed from this case and as a consequence, has had to retain counsel and incur fees and costs to defend this matter.

#### В. Legal Standard for A Motion to Dismiss

Plaintiff Bernstein's Complaint failed to state a cause of action upon which relief may be granted. NRCP 12(b)(5) states that a complaint may be dismissed for failure to state a claim. In the case of Scheuer v. Rhodes, 416 U.S. 232, 236, 94 S.Ct. 1683, 1686, 40 L.Ed.2d 90, 96 (1974), the Court stated that "when a court reviews the sufficiency of a complaint the issue is whether the claimant is entitled to offer evidence to support the claims." The sole issue is whether the allegations set forth a claim for relief. Vacation Village, Inc. v. Hitachi America, Ltd., 110 Nev. 481, 484, 874 P.2d 744, 746 (1994). Dismissal is proper if it appears beyond a doubt that the non-moving party could prove no set of facts, which if accepted by the trier of fact, would entitle him or her to relief. Simpson v. Mars Inc., 113 Nev. 188, 190, 929 P.2d 966, 967 (1997); see also Zalk-Josephs Co. v. Wells-Cargo, Inc., 81 Nev. 163, 400 P.2d 621 (1965). Even bearing in mind that the burden on the movant bringing a motion to dismiss is high, it is still proper in the instant case.

Pursuant to NRCP 12(b), this motion to dismiss shall be treated as one for summary judgment and disposed of as provided in Rule 56 because extrinsic evidence is attached.

(Page 4 of 25)

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NRCP 56(c) provides in pertinent part as follows:

Motion and proceedings thereon. The motion shall be served at least 10 days before the time fixed for the hearing. The judgment sought shall be rendered forthwith if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law....

Nevada Rule of Civil Procedure 56(c) establishes that summary judgment is appropriate when the pleadings and evidence demonstrate no genuine material issue remains to be decided, and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. Tucker v. Action Equip. & Scaffold Co., 113 Nev. 1349, 1353, 951 P.2d 1027, 1029 (1997).

The Supreme Court of Nevada articulated that the disfavored and now defunct "slightest doubt" standard in Nevada is a departure from the clear language as well as the spirit and intent of Rule 56(c). Wood v. Safeway, Inc., 121 P.2d 1026 (2005). Rather, the summary judgment standard is derived from the well-established trinity of federal cases. See Celotex v. Caltrett, 477 U.S. 317, 323 (1986) ("mandates the entry of summary judgment, after adequate time for discovery and upon motion, against a party who fails to make a showing sufficient to establish the existence of an element essential to that party's case, and on which that party will bear the burden of proof at trial"); Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc., 477 U.S. 242, 255 (1986) (opposition to a motion for summary judgment must be supported by specific facts, not bald assertions or denials); and Matsushita Elec. Indus. Co. v. Zenith Radio Corp., 475 U.S. 574, 587 (1985) ("where the record taken as a whole could not lead a rational trier of fact to find for the non-moving party, there is no 'genuine issue for trial'").

As a practical matter, Nevada law will not allow the opposing party to make a case "on gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation and conjecture." Pegasus v. Reno Newspapers, Inc., 118 Nev. 706, 713-14, 57 P.3d 82, 87 (2002) (quoting Posadas v. City of Reno, 109 Nev. 448,

(Page 5 of 25)

452, 851 P.2d 438, 442 (1993)). Furthermore, summary judgment may be entered when one of the *prima facie* elements is "clearly lacking as a matter of law." *Doud v. Las Vegas Hilton Corporation*, 109 Nev. 1096, 864 P.2d 796 (1993).

Here for the reasons set forth below, a reasonable finder of fact could not return a verdict in favor of Bernstein. Noteworld was merely the servicer of the loan and makes no claim to title to the property. As such, Noteworld is entitled to a dismissal with prejudice or alternatively, summary judgment on Bernstein's Quiet Title claim as a matter of law.

C. Plaintiff Bernstein's Cause of Action for Quiet Title is Foundationally Flawed and Fails to State a Valid Claim Upon Which Relief Can Be Granted.

Nevada Revised Statute 40.010 sets forth the standard whereby actions may be brought against adverse claimants to determine conflicting claims to real property. NRS 40.010 provides that "[a]n action may be brought by any person against another who claims an estate or interest in real property, adverse to him, for the purpose of determining such adverse claim."

In this case, Noteworld makes no claim to possession or interest to the Property. While Noteworld disputes the assertions that Bernstein made timely payments or had completed payment under the terms of the first and second Deeds of Trusts, Bernstein's quiet title action against Noteworld is simply erroneous. Dismissal with prejudice is proper because Bernstein cannot prove any set of facts, which even if accepted by this Court, would entitle him to relief for quiet title against Noteworld.

Additionally, summary judgment is appropriate in this matter because the pleadings and evidence demonstrate no genuine material issue remains to be decided. Noteworld is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. *Tucker* at 1349, 1029. Bernstein is merely attempting to make a case "on gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation and conjecture." *Pegasus v. Reno* 

Newspapers, Inc., 118 Nev. 706, 713-14, 57 P.3d 82, 87 (2002) (quoting Posadas v. City of Reno, 109 Nev. 448, 452, 851 P.2d 438, 442 (1993)).

#### D. Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, Defendant Noteworld respectfully requests this Court to dismiss with prejudice Plaintiff Bernstein's claim for quiet title pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5), or alternatively, grant summary judgment in favor of Defendant Noteworld on Plaintiff's claim. It is further requested that Defendant be awarded attorneys' fees and costs for having to defend this case and to submit this motion.

DATED this 19 day of October, 2009.

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP

David B. Sanders, Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 7895
Huong X. Lam, Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 10916
820 S. Valley View Boulevard
Las Vegas, NV 89107
(702) 435-4175 Telephone
Attorneys for Defendant
Noteworld, LLC

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that I am an employee of THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP, and that on the day of October, 2009, I served a true and correct copy of the DEFENDANT NOTEWORLD, LLC'S MOTION TO DISMISS OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE; MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT via First Class US Mail, postage prepaid to the parties listed below.

Malcolm P. LaVergne, Esq. The LaVegerne Law Group 320 East Charleston Blvd., Suite 203 Las Vegas, NV 89104

I declare under penalty of perjury under the law of the State of Nevada that the foregoing is true and correct.

An employee of

THE COOPER CASTLE LAW FIRM, LLP

Exhibit "A"

Exhibit "A"

(Page	9	of	25)
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	TTNESSETH: Thet	SYCAMORE PROPERTIES, a Parenership
B A VALUABLE C	ONBIDERATION, the rec	ceipt of which is hereby acknowledged, do hereby Grant, Bargain,
land Convey to	MARK G. BERNSTEIN AN	TO KARIN BERNSTEIN, bushand and wife as joint tenants.
that real property	citanted in the	County of CLARK
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OFFICIAL RECORDS

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# Exhibit "B"

Exhibit "B"

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Exhibit "C"

Exhibit "C"

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## Assignment of Deed of Trust

FOR VALUE RECEIVED, the undersigned hereby grants, easigns and transfers to Salvador Rodriguez, a married man all beneficial interest under that certain Deed of Trust dated July 1, 1980 executed by Hark G. Bernstein and Karin Bernstein

to Heritage Title and Escrow . Truster , send recorded as instrument No. 1209826 on July 9, 1980 in book 1250 , page , of Official Records in the County Recorder's office of Clark County, Navada formation as:

Lot Five (5) in Block One (1) of COLLEGE PARK NO. 3, as shown by map thereof on file in Book 4 of Plats, page 49, in the Office of the County Recorder of Clark County, Nevada.

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TOGETHER with the note or notes therein described or referred to, the money due and to become due thereon with interest, and all rights accrued or to accrue under said Deed of Trust.

Dated June 13, 1994	By Marie Rodinary General Partners  Witness Marie Medical
precently known to me or provide me on the bests of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) substituted to the wests instrument and acknowledged that	POR NOTARY SEAL OR STAMP

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County of Santa Barbara	
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Notary Public, personally appeared	Marcia Gehringer
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Exhibit "E"

Exhibit "E"

# NoteWorld Servicing Center

October 9, 2009

#### VIA FACSIMILE AND MAIL

Mr. Malcolm P. LaVergne, Esq. The LaVergne Law Group 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104

Re: Mark Bernstein v. NoteWorld, LLC, et al. (Case No. A09596386-C)

Dear Mr. LaVergne:

I am in receipt of the Summons and Complaint filed in the District Court Clark County, Nevada, Case No. A09596386-C by your client, Mr. Mark Bernstein.

After reviewing the allegations and claims for relief set forth in the Complaint, I was somewhat perplexed; most notably, by the allegations contained in Paragraph 15. Contrary to the allegations set forth therein, our records reflect that Mr. Bernstein has not "completed his payments" or "paid in full" either note (Account No. 300020095001054 or Account No. 300020095001053). In fact, he continued to make regular monthly payments for the entire period of April 2008 through July 2009 on both accounts. The last payments received from Mr. Bernstein were recorded on July 27, 2009.

As an initial matter, NoteWorld makes no claim to possession – in full or in part – to the properties at issue. Therefore, your client's quiet title claim against NoteWorld is erroneous. Second, because your client has not satisfied the terms of either note by rendering payment in full, his quiet title action is generally faulty. As of July 27, 2009, the principal balancing remaining on Account No. 300020095001054 is approximately \$8,728.80 and the principal balance remaining on Account No. 300020095001053 is approximately \$4,584.80. Unless your client has proof of full payoff, and thus, that he has satisfied the terms of one or both notes, his quiet title claim has no basis in law or fact.

Mr. Bernstein's complaint also alleges that the notices NoteWorld sent him regarding late fees were erroneous because he has paid "on-time throughout the history of the note payments." According to our records, Mr. Bernstein failed to make the following payments:



Mr. Malcolm P. Lavene October 9, 2009 Page 2

#### Account No. 300020095001053

- September 2001
- March 2002
- July 2007

#### Account No. 300020095001054

- March 2002
- July 2007

Under the terms of each Note Secured by a Deed of Trust, copies of which are attached hereto, payment is due on the first day of each month and "[i]n the event any payment is more than 15 days late, a late charge penalty of \$10.00 shall be paid." As indicated above, Account No. 300020095001053 was in arrears as of September 15, 2001 and started accruing a late penalty on September 16, 2001, and Account No. 300020095001054 was in arrears as of March 15, 2002 and started accruing a late penalty March 16, 2002. By notifying Mr. Bernstein that the accounts were accruing late penalties, NoteWorld acted consistent with the terms of the notes. If your client has some proof that payment was made on the above dates in a form of a cashed check or otherwise, please forward it to us immediately for further research. If your client has no proof, he may wish to seek a waiver of any late penalties that may be owed. To do so, however, he must contact Mr. Rodriguez directly. NoteWorld does not have the authority to waive late penalties; it is a matter between the parties. Notwithstanding the late penalty issue, even if Mr. Bernstein has proof that he made the unaccounted-for payments, the fact remains that he has not paid the notes in full and therefore, has not carned title to the properties at issue.

For the foregoing reasons, we would respectfully request that your client agree to voluntarily withdraw his Quite Title action against NoteWorld. If he will not agree to do so voluntarily, NoteWorld will be forced to hire an attorney in Nevada to oppose the action. In that case, NoteWorld will seek judgment against Mr. Bernstein for any attorneys' fees and costs incurred to oppose his Quiet Title action and/or to defend the claims Mr. Bernstein has brought against NoteWorld.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please feel free to call me at (253) 620-7042. In any event, I will follow-up with you early next week regarding your client's decision with respect to our request. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.

Sincerely,

Danielle H. Kiersztyn

General Counsel

Enclosures

### **ORIGINAL**

**FILED** 

OPPS / 0001 MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10121 THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile) Attorney for Plaintiff

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#### DISTRICT COURT CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA

MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual, Case No. A-09-596386-C Dept. Plaintiffs, Date and Time of Hearing: VS. November 24, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability) Company; SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ, an Individual; DOES I - X, Inclusive; and ROE Corporations I - X, Inclusive. Defendants.

#### PLAINTIFF MARK BERNSTEIN'S OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT NOTEWORLD, LLC'S MOTION TO DISMISS AND COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE AN AMENDED COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN ("Bernstein" or "Plaintiff"), by and through his attorney of record MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESO. of THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP, and hereby files his Opposition and Countermotion to Defendant NOTEWORLD LLC'S ("Noteworld" or "Defendant") Motion to Dismiss or, in the Alternative, Motion for Summary Judgment. Defendant further moves the Court for Leave to

File an Amended Complaint.

A-09-596386-C

This Opposition and Countermotion are being made pursuant to the applicable statutes and case law, including NRCP 15(a), the papers and pleadings on file herein, and any argument of counsel and testimony that may be entertained at the hearing of these motions.

### NOTICE OF COUNTERMOTION

To: NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liability Company; and

DAVID B. SANDERS, ESQ., Attorney for Defendant To:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the hearing on Plaintiff's Countermotion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint will be held in the above-entitled cause at the Eighth Judicial District Court on the , 2009 at a.m./p.m. at the

Regional Justice Center located at 200 Lewis Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89155.

Dated this

day of

Malcolm P. LaVergne, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 10721 Attorney for Plaintiff

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#### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

- 1. The property at issue is located at 2517 East Tonopah Avenue, North Las Vegas, Nevada 89030, APN 139-24-410-005 ("Tonopah Property").
- 2. On or around July 1, 1980 Plaintiff became the owner in fee simple of the Tonopah Property.
- 3. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$9,140.98 (Instrument No. 1209825, Book 1250), and Plaintiff additionally secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$4,600.00 (Instrument No. 1209826, Book 1250).
- 4. On or around June 22, 1994, the deeds of trust related to both notes passed to Defendant Salvador Rodriguez.
- 5. The notes for the deeds of trust on the Tonopah Property are serviced by Defendant Noteworld.
  - 6. In or around 2004, Plaintiff became the sole owner of the Tonopah Property.
- 7. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- 8. At that time, in around April 2008, Plaintiff became the owner of the Tonopah Property free of any encumbrances.
- 9. In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of late fees that date back to January 10, 2000.
- 10. Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.

- 11. Plaintiff filed a Complaint to Quiet Title to Real Property in this cause on or around July 30, 2009 requesting that the title to the Tonopah Property is resolved by this Court through a trial on the merits, pursuant to NRS 40.010.
- 12. On or around October 19, 2009, Defendant Noteworld filed its Motion to Dismiss or in the Alternative, Motion for Summary Judgment.

### ARGUMENTS AND AUTHORITIES

- 1. Pursuant to NRCP 12(b), if on a motion asserting a defense to dismiss for failure of the pleading to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, matters outside the pleading are presented to and not excluded by the court, the motion shall be treated as one for summary judgment and disposed of as provided in NRCP 56.
- 2. All parties shall be given reasonable opportunity to present all material made pertinent to such a motion by NRCP 56, when this rule is evoked pursuant to NRCP 12(b)(5).
- 3. Summary judgment is only proper "if the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." *Celotex v. Caltrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986).
- 4. The evidence of the non moving party is to be believed, and all justifiable inferences are to be drawn in his favor. *Anderson v. Liberty Lobby, Inc.*, 477 U.S. 242, 255 (1986).
- 5. The entry of summary judgment is mandated only after adequate time for discovery, against a party who fails to make a showing sufficient to establish the existence of an element essential to that party's case. *Celotex v. Caltrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 322 (1986).
- 6. In the present cause, no discovery has been conducted, and an Early Case Conference has not been held.
  - 7. In fact, only a Complaint and a responsive pleading have been filed.

- Defendant asserts in its Motion that "Noteworld makes no claim to possession 8. or interest to the property."
- However, Defendant Noteworld persistently and erroneously began sending 13. Plaintiff notices, starting in around 2008 that assert late fees dating back from January 10, 2000.
- Defendant is the only entity attempting to collect the alleged late fees from 9. Plaintiff, and Defendant has been unwilling to provide any contact information for the alleged deed holder, Defendant Salvador Rodriguez.
- Sufficient discovery has not been conducted for Plaintiff to determine the 10. actual entities that have a claim to possession or interest to the Tonopah Property.
- Furthermore, as part of this pleading and pursuant to NRCP 15(a), Defendant 11. now files a Motion for Leave to File a Counterclaim.
- Plaintiff seeks to amend his Complaint after conducting further research and 12. investigation since the time of filing the Complaint.
- Plaintiff now alleges that Defendant Noteworld violated certain provisions of 13. the Nevada Revised Statutes and provisions of the United States Code with regard to Defendant's servicing of the mortgage loans on the Tonopah Property.
  - Therefore, Plaintiff's Motion should be denied in its entirety. 14.

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## COUNTERMOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

COMES NOW, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN ("Bernstein" or "Plaintiff"), by and through his attorney of record MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. of the LAVERGNE LAW GROUP, and hereby files his Countermotion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint.

This Countermotion is made pursuant to the applicable statutes and case law, including NRCP 15(a), the papers and pleadings on file herein, and any arguments of counsel and testimony that may be entertained at the hearing of these motions.

### **ARGUMENTS AND AUTHORITIES**

- 1. NRCP 15(a) specifically states that "a party may amend the party's pleading only by leave of court or by written consent of the adverse party; and leave shall be freely given when justice so requires." (Emphasis added).
- 2. Absent undue delay, bad faith or dilatory motive on the part of the movant the leave to amend should be freely given. Stephens v. Southern Nev. Music Co., 89 Nev. 104, 507 P.2d 138 (1973).
- 3. In fact, a motion to amend may be made orally in open court in the presence of counsel for the adverse party. Weiler v. Ross, 80 Nev. 380, 395 P.2d 323 (1964).
- 4. Here, no undue delay, bad faith or dilatory motives exist in making this Motion for Leave.
- 5. This Countermotion is made in good faith based on the additional information received and reviewed since the filing of the Complaint and upon further consideration in this matter.

Exhibit "1"

ACOM MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10121 THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile) Attorney for Plaintiff	
DISTRICT CLARK COUN	
MARK BERNSTEIN, an Individual, Plaintiffs,	) Case No. ) Dept. )
vs.	) Exempt From Arbitration ) (Title to Real Estate)
NOTEWORLD, LLC, a Foreign Limited Liabi Company; SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ, an Individual; DOES I – X, Inclusive; and ROE Corporations I – X, Inclusive,	lity) ) ) )
Defendants.	)

# PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT TO QUIET TITLE TO REAL PROPERTY AND FOR DAMAGES

COMES NOW, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN ("Plaintiff" or "Bernstein"), by and through his attorney MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, of THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP, and for his First Amended Complaint to Quiet Title to Real Property and for Damages against Defendants, alleges the following:

- 1. At all relevant times, Plaintiff MARK BERNSTEIN was and is a resident of the State of Nevada, County of Clark, and is the owner in fee simple of the property located at 2517 East Tonopah Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada 89030 ("Tonopah Property").
- 2. At all relevant times, Defendant NOTEWORLD, LLC was and is a Foreign Limited Liability Company doing business in the State of Nevada, County of Clark.

- At all relevant times, Defendant SALVADOR RODRIGUEZ was and is a resident of Santa Barbara, California and lives at 1004 Cima Linda Lane, Santa Barbara, California, 93108.
- 4. Upon information and belief, Defendants DOES I X are individuals or entities involved in the conduct alleged herein; that Plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the identities of these individuals or entities and, therefore, sues them under fictitious names; that when their true identities are known, Plaintiff will expeditiously seek leave to amend the Complaint with the true identities.
- 5. Upon information and belief, Defendants ROE Corporations I X are involved in the conduct alleged herein; that Plaintiff has been unable to ascertain the identities of these corporations and, therefore, sues them under fictitious names; that when their true identities are known, Plaintiff will expeditiously seek leave to amend the Complaint with the true identities.
- 6. On or around July 1, 1980 Plaintiff became the owner in fee simple of the Tonopah Property.
- 7. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$9,140.98.
- 8. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff additionally secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$4,600.00.
- In or around 2001, Sycamore Properties became a defunct company in the State of Nevada.
- On or around June 22, 1994, the deeds of trust related to both notes passed to
   Defendant Salvador Rodriguez.
  - 11. The notes on the Tonopah Property are serviced by Defendant Noteworld.

- 12. The note for \$9,140.98 is known to Defendant Noteworld as Account No. 300020095001053.
- 13. The note for \$4,600 is known to Defendant Noteworld as Account No. 300020095001054.
  - 14. In or around 2004, Plaintiff became sole owner of the Tonopah Property.
- 15. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- 16. Mr. Bernstein made his payments to Defendant Noteworld rigorously and ontime throughout the history of the note payments.
- 17. In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of late fees that dates back to January 10, 2000.
- 18. Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.

# FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION (Quiet Title Pursuant to NRS 40.010)

- 19. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "18" as if fully set forth herein. Plaintiff further alleges:
- 20. Plaintiff has been the owner in fee simple of the Tonopah Property since on or around July 1, 1980.
- 21. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$9,140.98.
- 22. On or around July 1, 1980, Plaintiff additionally secured a note by deed of trust with Sycamore Properties in the amount of \$4,600.00.

- 23. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes.
- 24. Plaintiff requests that the titles to both real properties are resolved by this court through a trial on the merits, pursuant to NRS 40.010.
- 25. Plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to represent him for this action, and, therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees from Defendants.

### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of 15 USC 1692(e) against Defendant Noteworld)

- 26. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "25" as if fully set forth herein. Plaintiff further alleges:
- 27. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- 28. Mr. Bernstein made his payments to Defendant Noteworld rigorously and ontime throughout the history of the note payments.
- 29. In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of late fees that dates back to January 10, 2000.
- 30. Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.
- 31. Defendant Noteworld made false representations about the character, amount and/or legal status of the alleged debt.
- 32. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00 of the result of Defendant's violation of 15 USC 1692(e).

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33. Plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to represent him for this action, and, therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees from Defendants.

#### SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of 15 USC 1692(f) against Defendant Noteworld)

- 34. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "33" as if fully set forth herein. Plaintiff further alleges:
- 35. In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- 36. Mr. Bernstein made his payments to Defendant Noteworld rigorously and ontime throughout the history of the note payments.
- 37. In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of late fees that dates back to January 10, 2000.
- 38. Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.
- 39. Defendant Noteworld collected alleged late fees on several occasions from Plaintiff which were not expressly authorized by any agreement or permitted by law.
- 40. Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00 of the result of Defendant's violation of 15 USC 1692(f).
- 41. Plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to represent him for this action, and, therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees from Defendants.

### THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION

(Violation of NRS 598.0915 against Defendant Noteworld)

42. Plaintiff repeats and re-alleges each and every allegation contained in paragraphs "1" through "41" as if fully set forth herein. Plaintiff further alleges:

- In around April 2008, Plaintiff completed his payments and was paid in full on 43. both notes, Account No. 300020095001053 and Account No. 300020095001054.
- Mr. Bernstein made his payments to Defendant Noteworld rigorously and on-44. time throughout the history of the note payments.
- In or around 2008, Defendant Noteworld began sending Plaintiff notices of 45. late fees that dates back to January 10, 2000.
- Defendant Noteworld never informed Plaintiff his payments were allegedly 46. late and that late fees were accruing from on or around January 10, 2000 to the present until in or around 2008.
- Defendant Noteworld attempted to collect alleged late fees on several 47. occasions that were not permitted by law or authorized by Plaintiff.
- Defendant Noteworld collected alleged late fees on several occasions from 48. Plaintiff that were not permitted by law or authorized by Plaintiff.
- Plaintiff has been damaged in an amount in excess of \$10,000.00 of the result 49. of Defendant's actions.
- Plaintiff has been required to retain an attorney to represent him for this 50. action, and, therefore, Plaintiff is entitled to his reasonable attorney's fees from Defendants.

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WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for a judgment against Defendants as follows: 1 2 That the Court grant Plaintiff's relief on all causes of action; 1. For compensatory damages in excess of \$10,000.00 as alleged; 3 2. That the Defendants pay Plaintiff's reasonable attorney's fees; and 4 3. For any such further additional relief as the Court may deem just and proper. 5 4. Dated this \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2009. 6 7 8 9 MALCOLM P. LAVERGNE, ESQ. Nevada Bar No. 10121 10 THE LAVERGNE LAW GROUP 320 East Charleston Boulevard, Suite 203 11 Las Vegas, Nevada 89104 702.448.7981 / 702.966.3117 (Facsimile) 12 Attorneys for Plaintiff 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25